
Heritage Resources

There are no known cultural or historic sites in this unit.

Recreation

DESIGNATIONS AND EXISTING USE

Recreation is a secondary use in subunits a and b. Current recreation is mostly associated with hunting (see Fish and Wildlife in this chapter) or snowmachine and other off-road vehicle (ORV) travel. Recreation in the Kashwitna Unit has increased in recent years. Several major ORV trails cross the unit (see also Chapter 3, Transportation and Access). There are no existing commercial or public facilities in this unit.

RESOURCES AND POTENTIAL

High moose populations, increased access, and new access to fisheries in Little Willow Creek are likely to increase hunting, fishing, and trail use in the Kashwitna Unit (see also Fish and Wildlife in this chapter). The unnamed lake in Subunit a has potential for public recreation, including picnicking, sport fishing, camping, and hiking. Use of this lake will depend on provision of access.

Recreation sites are identified on the unnamed lake in Subunit a and at the trailheads to the Willow Creek Mountain trail in Subunit b and the proposed ORV trail in Subunit a (see also Chapter 3, Recreation and Map 3). A recreation analysis is required prior to designing a stream crossing over Little Willow Creek to determine what recreation facilities (for example, parking) are needed at the crossing.

Subsurface Resources

DESIGNATIONS AND EXISTING USE

All public lands in subunits a and b are open to mineral entry and available for leasing for coal, oil, and gas. Subunit c was closed to mineral entry by the Willow Subbasin Area Plan to prevent conflicts with agricultural development. The land added to Subunit c by this plan (the part of Subunit c in T20N R4W sections 13-14) will be closed to new mineral entry before agricultural homesteads are sold.

No active mining claims exist in the Kashwitna Unit. Claims exist east of the planning area on Peters Creek and Purches Creek. There are no existing coal, oil, or gas leases in the planning area.

RESOURCES AND POTENTIAL

Two distinct physiographic regions exist within the Kashwitna Unit: the Talkeetna Mountain foothills and the Susitna Basin lowlands. The foothills are of tertiary conglomerates and coal sequences, plus outliers of a diorite batholith. The tertiary sequence in the foothills shows at